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Chroniclers* 313

guished visitors were called in; Roger himself and his pardoned rebel barons knew all Apulia and Southern Italy; the King's uncle, Henry, described his native Piedmont and Northern Italy; information came from a thousand sources, and fact and fable were set down together.

The net result of the whole work was, first, a silver planisphere weighing 450 Roman pounds, on which were traced in their equal distances, as far as was known, the gulfs, seas, and other physical and topographical features of the globe; secondly a map or series of maps of the earth; and thirdly the geographical work of Edrisi himself containing the information and explanatory notices intended to illustrate the planisphere and the maps, a book commonly called *The Book of Roger*, "the delight of whoso wisheth to traverse the world," This was published in 1154, the year of the King's death, and dedicated to him, The silver disc or orb was destroyed in anti-Moslem riots under Roger's successor. The original maps or charts are also lost, and only imperfect or partial copies remain of them,

The *Book of Roger* itself became a classic among Arab geographers, and many copies were made of it, In Europe, after little had been

known of it
for four and a half centuries, the
fragments of the
work were published in Rome and in
Paris, 1592
and 1619, under the name of
G&ographia Nubiensis,
since when it has been well known in
the West,
Edrisi used the Ptolemaic division
into *Climata*